

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1128

To authorize the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to ionizing radiation as a result of participation in the testing of nuclear weapons or under other circumstances.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2009

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To authorize the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who were exposed to ionizing radiation as a result of participation in the testing of nuclear weapons or under other circumstances.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Atomic Veterans Serv-  
5       ice Medal Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. ATOMIC VETERANS SERVICE MEDAL.**

7       (a) SERVICE MEDAL REQUIRED.—The Secretary of  
8       Defense shall design and produce a military service medal,

1 to be known as the “Atomic Veterans Service Medal”, to  
2 honor retired and former members of the Armed Forces  
3 who are radiation-exposed veterans (as such term is de-  
4 fined in section 1112(c)(3) of title 38, United States  
5 Code).

6 (b) DISTRIBUTION OF MEDAL.—

7 (1) ISSUANCE TO RETIRED AND FORMER MEM-  
8 BERS.—At the request of a radiation-exposed vet-  
9 eran, the Secretary of Defense shall issue the Atom-  
10 ic Veterans Service Medal to the veteran.

11 (2) ISSUANCE TO NEXT-OF-KIN.—In the case of  
12 a radiation-exposed veteran who is deceased, the  
13 Secretary may provide for issuance of the Atomic  
14 Veterans Service Medal to the next-of-kin of the per-  
15 son.

16 (3) APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall prepare  
17 and disseminate as appropriate an application by  
18 which radiation-exposed veterans and their next-of-  
19 kin may apply to receive the Atomic Veterans Serv-  
20 ice Medal.

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